

App. No. 09/833,201

Reply to Office action of November 5, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (currently amended) An oligomeric para-phenylene compound having the formula:



wherein

the subscript n is an integer of from 5 to 15;

the superscript i is an integer of from 1 to n and denotes the position downstream from R^1 ;

each Ar^i group is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group, with at least one Ar^i group being selected from phenylene having from 1 to 4 halogen substituents, and substituted or unsubstituted fused polycyclic aryl with the proviso that any fused polycyclic aryl groups are linked in the compound in a manner that maintains a coplanar orientation relative to the adjacent Ar^i groups; Ar is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group; and

R^1 and R^2 are each substituents that increase the solubility of the para-phenylene compound in nonpolar organic solvents relative to the solubility of the corresponding compound wherein R^1 and R^2 are hydrogen;

with the proviso that the Ar^i groups are linked together in a 1,4-paraphenylene manner.

2. (original) A compound of claim 1, wherein n is an integer of from 5 to 9.

3. (currently amended) A compound of claim 1, wherein at least one of said Ar^i groups ~~are is independently selected from unsubstituted phenylene and phenylene having from 1 to 4 fluoro substituents.~~

4. (cancelled)

5. (withdrawn) A compound of claim 1-4, wherein said fused polycyclic aryl groups are selected from the group consisting of 2,6-naphthylene, 2,7-phenanthrylene, 2,6-anthrylene, and 2,6-carbazolydene.

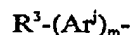
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6. (withdrawn) A compound of claim 1, wherein the subscript n is 7 and Ar^3 and Ar^5 are substituted or unsubstituted 2,6-naphthylene.

7. (withdrawn) A compound of claim 1, wherein the subscript n is 7 and Ar^4 bears two substituted or unsubstituted phenyl ring substituents other than the remaining Ar^j groups.

8. (original) A compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 are each independently substituents having the formula:

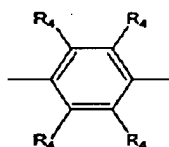


wherein

the subscript m is an integer of from 1 to 5;

each Ar^j is selected from the group consisting of

a) a 1,4-phenylene group having the formula:



wherein each R^4 is a member independently selected from the group consisting of H, substituted or unsubstituted $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{12})$ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{12})$ alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{12})$ alkylamino, substituted or unsubstituted $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{12})$ alkylthio, substituted or unsubstituted $\text{di}(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{12})$ alkylamino, substituted or unsubstituted arylamino, substituted or unsubstituted diarylamino and halogen, with the proviso that at least two of the four R^4 substituents are independently selected from substituted or unsubstituted $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{12})$ alkyl and substituted or unsubstituted $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{12})$ alkoxy, and

b) an aryl biradical selected from the group consisting of 1,4-naphthylene, 1,4-anthrylene, 9,10-anthrylene, 5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphth-1,4-ylene, 9,9',10,10'-tetra $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{12})$ alkyl-9,10-dihydroanthr-1,4-ylene, 9,9',10,10'-tetraaryl-9,10-dihydroanthr-1,4-ylene, 9,9',10,10'-

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tetra(C₁-C₁₂)alkyl-9,10-dihydroanthr-2,6-ylenc, 9,9',10,10'-tetraaryl-9,10-dihydroanthr-1,4-ylenc; and

R³ is selected from the group consisting of H, substituted or unsubstituted (C₁-C₁₂) alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted (C₁-C₁₂) alkylamino, substituted or unsubstituted (C₁-C₁₂) alkylthio, substituted or unsubstituted di(C₁-C₁₂) alkylamino, substituted or unsubstituted arylamino, substituted or unsubstituted diarylamino and halogen.

9. (original) A compound of claim 8, wherein m is an integer of from 1 to 3.

10 - 29. (canceled)